

Appl. No. 10/674,923
Amdt. dated November 18, 2005
Reply to Office action of August 22, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:
a device; and
a laptop computer coupled to said device by way of a communication bus operated under a communication protocol, the communication bus comprising communication lines and power lines;
wherein the device determines if the laptop computer is capable of being powered across the power lines of the communication bus by communication with the laptop across the power lines of said communication bus.
- 2.-9. (Canceled).
10. (Previously presented) In a computer system comprising a laptop computer adapted to dock to a docking station by way of a USB interface, a method of operating said computer system comprising:
powering said laptop computer from said docking station across said USB interface with a voltage in excess of five volts.
- 11.-19. (Canceled).
20. (Previously presented) A docking station for mating with a laptop computer comprising:
a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface having data signal lines and power rails that couple to the laptop computer; and
a docking logic that provides power to said laptop over the power rails of the USB interface at a voltage of greater than five volts.

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21.-24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously presented) The computer system as defined in claim 26 wherein the device further comprises a docking station.

26. (Currently amended) A computer system, comprising:
a device having power available therein;
a laptop computer coupled to said device by way of a communication bus that, in a first mode, operates under the Universal Serial Bus (USB) protocol and is capable of supplying power across power lines of communication bus; and
in a second mode of operation said laptop computer powered by said device across the power lines of said communication bus.

27. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the laptop computer is capable of providing power to external devices across the communication bus when the laptop is not coupled to the device.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising powering the laptop computer from the docking station across the USB interface with substantially 18 volts.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising shutting off power to the communication bus when a laptop computer is detached from the docking station.

30. (Previously presented) A method comprising:
powering downstream devices by power rails of a bus interface of a laptop computer, the bus interface operated in compliance with the Universal Serial Bus (USB) protocol, and the powering in a first mode of operation; and

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accepting, in a second mode of operation, power by the laptop computer on the power rails of the bus interface.

31. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 30 further comprising accepting power from a docking station on the power rails of the bus interface.

32. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 30 further comprising accepting power at a voltage in excess of five volts.

33. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 32 further comprising accepting power at a voltage level of substantially 18 volts.

34. (New) The computer system as defined in claim 1 wherein the communication bus operates under the Universal Serial Bus (USB) protocol.

35. (New) The computer system as defined in claim 1 wherein the laptop computer is capable of supplying power across power lines of communication bus.

36. (New) The computer system as defined in claim 1 wherein the device further comprises a docking station.